

The Horsington & South Cheriton Villager

Issue No. 68

December/January 2018



Mark Tucker in action on GREATBritain

| | | | | | |
|--------------|--------------------|--------|-------------------|-------------------|--------|
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All opinions expressed in articles published are those of the authors and not of the magazine.

To view past and present copies of the Villager go to the Wincanton Window website
www.wincantonwindow.co.uk and click on the 'Villages' link.

Events Diary December 2017

| Day/Date | Time | Event | Venue |
|-----------------|---------|--|------------------------------|
| Fri 1st | 10.00am | Art | Village Hall |
| Sat 2nd | 2.30pm | National Trust Association Talk | Digby Hall, Sherborne |
| Mon 4th | 5.30pm | Pilates | Village Hall |
| | 6.45pm | Pilates | " |
| | Lunch | Ladies' Pub Lunch | Crown & Victoria, Tintinhull |
| Tue 5th | 10.30am | Upholstery | Village Hall |
| | 10.00am | Christmas Coffee Morning | Half Moon Inn |
| | 8.00pm | Badminton | Village Hall |
| Wed 6th | 10.00am | Adult Tap Dancing | " |
| | 8.30pm | Music Night | Half Moon Inn |
| Thu 7th | 10.00am | Art | Village Hall |
| | 7.30pm | WI | " |
| Fri 8th | 10.00am | Art | " |
| Sat 9th | 7.30pm | Film: The Audience | Village Hall Milborne Port |
| Mon 11th | 5.30pm | Pilates | Village Hall |
| | 6.45pm | Pilates | " |
| Tue 12th | 10.30am | Upholstery | " |
| | 8.00pm | Badminton | " |
| Wed 13th | 10.00am | Adult Tap Dancing | " |
| Thu 14th | 10.00am | Art | " |
| | 7.30pm | Parish Council Meeting | " |
| Mon 18th | 5.30pm | Pilates | " |
| | 6.45pm | Pilates | " |
| Tue 19th | 8.00pm | Badminton | " |
| Sun 24th | 6.00pm | Candlelit Carol Service | St John's Horsington |

*The Villager would like to wish all their readers, advertisers and contributors a very **Merry Christmas** and a **Happy New Year**.*

We very much look forward to receiving further input, comments and suggestions from you in 2018.

If anyone would like to become involved in any aspects of the magazine, we would love to hear from you. Just get in touch with any one of us, you will find our phone numbers on the cover page.



Events Diary January 2018

| Day/Date | Time | Event | Venue |
|-----------------|---------|--|----------------------------------|
| Wed 3rd | 8.30pm | Music Night | Half Moon Inn |
| Fri 5th | 10.00am | Art | Village Hall |
| Sat 6th | 2.30pm | National Trust Association Talk | Digby Hall, Sherborne |
| Mon 8th | Lunch | Ladies' Pub Lunch | Bell & Crown, Zeals |
| | 5.30pm | Pilates | Village Hall |
| | 6.45pm | Pilates | " |
| Tue 9th | 10.30am | Upholstery | " |
| | 8.00pm | Badminton | " |
| Wed 10th | 10.00am | Adult Tap Dancing | " |
| Thu 11th | 10.00am | Art | " |
| | 7.30pm | Parish Council Meeting | " |
| Fri 12th | 10.00am | Art | " |
| Mon 15th | 5.30pm | Pilates | " |
| | 6.45pm | Pilates | " |
| Tue 16th | 10.30am | Upholstery | " |
| | 8.00pm | Badminton | " |
| Wed 17th | 10.00am | Adult Tap Dancing | " |
| Thu 18th | 10.00am | Art | " |
| | 7.30pm | WI - Pantomime | Village Hall Charlton Horethorne |
| Fri 19th | 10.00am | Art | Village Hall |
| Mon 22nd | 5.30pm | Pilates | " |
| | 6.45pm | Pilates | " |
| Tue 23rd | 10.30am | Upholstery | " |
| | 8.00pm | Badminton | " |
| Wed 24th | 10.00am | Adult Tap Dancing | " |
| Thu 25th | 10.00am | Art | " |
| Fri 26th | 10.00am | Art | " |
| | 7.30pm | Wincanton Museum and History Society talk | Wincanton Mem.Hall |
| Mon 29th | 5.30pm | Pilates | Village Hall |
| | 6.45pm | Pilates | " |
| Tue 30th | 10.30am | Upholstery | " |
| | 8.00pm | Badminton | " |
| Wed 31st | 10.00am | Adult Tap Dancing | " |

Photographs on pages 1 & 5 provided by Mark Tucker, photos on pages 8 & 9 by Chris Bailward and those on page 13 provided by Christine Pratt

Racing the Atlantic by Mark Tucker

It's early Sunday morning on 20th August and Liverpool's Albert Dock is alive with activity; months of planning, training and preparation culminate today - the day which marks the start of the Clipper Round The World Yacht Race. It's a day of excitement, anticipation, trepidation and sadness to be leaving home, friends and family all in equal measure.

The race is unique. It allows anyone to experience ocean racing, either by completing a full circumnavigation or by sailing one or more of the legs of which it is comprised. Like me, a large number of those signing up have no real previous sailing experience and are joining to learn something new, for an adventure and as a personal challenge.

Prior to race start all crew, even experienced sailors, undertake the same four weeks of compulsory training during which we learn the basics of sailing, about the boat and its systems and, most importantly, how to keep ourselves and each other safe. It's a steep learning curve and hard physical work; moving around the boat, changing and hoisting sails and periodically climbing the 95' mast all require strength and agility.

Twelve identical 70' racing yachts make up the fleet, each led by a professional skipper and crewed by about 20 eager but inexperienced amateurs. Each boat bears a race sponsor's name and livery; in my case it was GREAT Britain – one of the government's campaigns for attracting tourism, trade and investment to the UK. After final goodbyes and in a similar style to an Olympic opening ceremony each team in turn parades, under their sponsor's banner and accompanied by music chosen by the crew, to their boats.

After final checks and right on schedule our lines are slipped and it's time to leave the safety of the dock and the familiarity of the UK to embark into the great unknown – next stop Uruguay. The 'great circle' distance between Liverpool and our next stop, Punta del Este, is 5966 nautical miles but the route needed to avoid land and pass through compulsory gates will increase that to about 6500nm; a journey expected to take at least 31 days.

As soon as we are clear of the River Mersey it's time to get into the watch system that will form our routine for the next few weeks. We have 17 crew for this first leg and are split into the watches that our Skipper, Andy, has specified. From now on, we'll see very little of the other half of our crew despite all living aboard a relatively small boat. Our rotation comprises six-hour watches during the day and four-hour watches at night. It's a life governed by routine – a member of the other watch will tell you when to wake and when to go off watch – so within a day or so it becomes unimportant to know the time of day let alone which day of the week it is.

A racing yacht is built with speed rather than comfort in mind: bunks are small, angle-adjustable aluminium-framed contraptions and are shared with a member of the opposite watch; personal storage is limited to a single, small cubby hole secured with cargo-netting; the heads (toilets) are tiny and screened only by a zipper-fastened canvas door and the galley seating area provides just about sufficient space to allow food to be wolfed down before going on deck. These particular yachts are also designed to be labour-intensive – anything that needs to be done to sail or care for the boat is done manually; hard, heavy and time-consuming work.

It has been estimated that a crew member taking part in the race burns approximately 5000 calories per day so keeping the watches well fed is important to maintain boat speed, crew health and morale. Everyone takes their turn to act as ship's cook. In a galley about the size you might expect to find in a caravan and with a similarly sized oven, three meals, fresh bread and cakes plus countless hot drinks are prepared daily; a difficult enough prospect when the boat is flat but even more challenging when heeled to 45 degrees and being tossed around in rough seas!

Caring for the sails, especially the spinnakers used for downwind sailing, also takes a considerable amount of time. Much like a parachute, each time a spinnaker is ‘flown’ it needs to be packed in a special way to ensure it will deploy properly the next time. This process, called wooling, involves ensuring the tennis-court sized sail, is flat and untwisted before each edge being rolled from each of the three corners to form a three-pointed star – a process needing about six people and undertaken in a space about quarter the size of the sail. The rolls are secured with wool which is strong enough to allow the sail to be handled and hoisted but weak enough to break as the wind begins to fill the sail. The sails must also be regularly and carefully inspected for damage – any holes or tears are swiftly repaired either by hand or machine sewing to prevent them getting worse.

On this particular leg there is little in the way of land or other shipping to provide a distraction from the routine. When relatively close to land, dolphins and sea birds frequently accompany the boat but further offshore the flying fish and squid that occasionally find themselves on the deck are often the only signs of other life we see. Variation does come with latitude though; from the grey coldness of our seas, through warm and unpredictable squalls, into the windless doldrums and on to the unbearable heat of the Equator before returning to colder climes as we venture further south towards Uruguay.

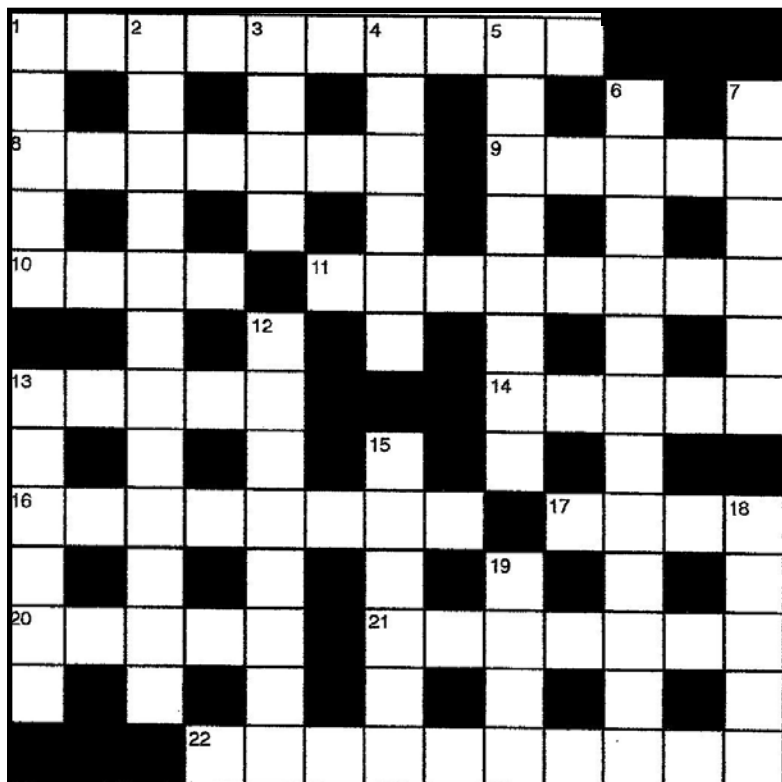
After 33 days at sea, Punta del Este provides our first real sight of land since leaving Liverpool and I’m not sure which emotion I feel most; probably relief! We cross the finishing line in a very respectable third place very early in the cold, dark and pouring rain but soon find ourselves the subjects of an incredibly warm Uruguayan welcome in a cosy yacht club with beer and fresh food in hand – a real treat after nearly five weeks of mainly tinned or dried food and a complete lack of alcohol.

As Blog readers (and those who know me personally) will know, I had originally intended to complete more of the race but decided, for lots of reasons, that Uruguay would mark the finish line for me. It was a fantastic experience and I plan to do a lot more sailing; I think, for me at least, ocean racing is best watched on the television however!



Departing Liverpool Dock

CROSSWORD by MAX



Across

1. Christmas perhaps, or maybe right now. (7,3)
8. Give the nod to computer program leading tailless dog. (7)
9. Musical medical procedure ahead of time. (5)
10. A happening without time is not odd. (4)
11. Befuddled fool and I sit initially ahead of monarch in part of monastery. (8)
13. Part of Cape Storm is saucy. (5)
14. Wise prize generator. (5)
16. Shock as strange rips appear in certainty. (8)
17. Knockout returning monkey food. (4)
20. Tree I love madly. (5)
21. Concerned gangster with weapons. (7)
22. Is the saint troubled in opposition? (10)

Down

1. Sounds like a bit of tranquillity. (5)
2. Particular aim of HS2. (7,5)
3. Love god going down, painful going up. (4)
4. Three times a choirboy. (6)
5. Maestro, I confused a crop-sprayer. (8)
6. Newspaper under examination cause for worry? (7,5)
7. Childrens' author on Welsh island, we hear. (6)
12. Vast wealth and drug create number. (8)
13. Shakespearean character fires bullets. (6)
15. African soldier hears skin blemish contained by artificial intelligence. (6)
18. Interpol poem bumps. (5)
19. Old Iraqi team loses centre to City. (4)

Answers on Page 14

Revitalisation of Play Area - Update

by Jackie Pyne

Horsington Parish Council have put together what we think is a realistic proposal for our small, rural parish.

Many thanks to those of you who responded to the Wigley Family letter which has raised an amazing £2000.

Combined with the Capital Fund from the Parish Council and the £5000 pledged from SSDC, we have the £16,000 needed to replace at trade price plus fitting, the activity centre (one that fits on our original base), the see-saw, the spring horse and to renovate the swings and existing surfaces. It is a sad fact that new surfaces cost more than new equipment and have no play value to their users.

One thing that came up in discussions with the SSDC play and facilities team, is we are missing one vital element of play... some form of rotation.

We are currently seeking to raise the extra £7000 to buy and install a Lappset Xspeed rotator suitable for 4 children up to the age of 14, complete with safety surface.

If you feel you are able to help towards this, cheques can be made payable to Horsington Parish Council or if you would like further details, please contact the Clerk, David Chapman **01963 370527**.

Get Christmas off to a good start!

This year's **Candlelit Carol Service** will be held on Christmas Eve (24th December) at 6 p.m. in Horsington Church.

Why not get twice the enjoyment by joining our choir for the occasion and gain a ringside seat and world fame.
(You don't have to be a great singer - just willing.)

If you are tempted, phone **Sheila** and **John** on **370249**



theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

*Thursday 7th December
Christmas Lunch*

*Thursday 18th January
Pantomime in Charlton Horethorne*

Telephone Mrs Jackie Pyne for further information on **370713**

Chris Bailward takes to the road again

When my daughter Kate decided in 2009 that she'd had enough of struggling to make a living as an actress and took a crash course to qualify to teach English to speakers of other languages (TESOL), it put in place a sequence of events that led me to cycle from Sicily to my home in Somerset.

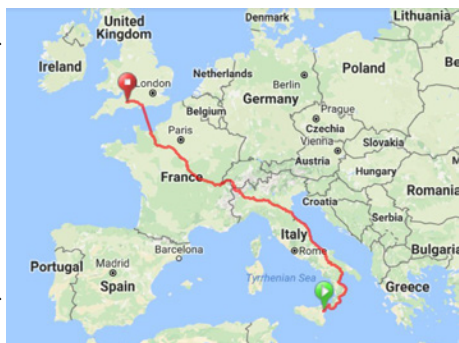
Having completed her course she found herself with a job in a language school in Apulia, the heel of Italy and the following year in Calabria, the toe. By now rather smitten with Italy as a place to live and work she decided to hone her Italian skills with a crash course in conversational Italian in Taormina on the lovely island of Sicily. She soon found a job and somewhere to live on the island where she has been ever since. Fast forward to Christmas 2014 when Kate invited Davide, a native Sicilian, to "meet the parents" at Home Farm. They were married in August 2015 and Matteo George was born in June of this year.



In the meantime Kate and Davide had bought this lovely house 1200 feet up in the foothills of Mount Etna and it was there that my bike and I went, by way of Easyjet from Bristol to Catania, on 15th September. Mercifully horror stories of broken bicycles arriving at the destination airport did not come true and by the middle of the afternoon of that day, I had it back together and ready for the journey that had been long in the planning.

When Kate was still in Calabria and any thoughts of marriage and motherhood were long in the future, she had seriously considered cycling home to the UK in the language school holidays and had even got as far as buying the necessary kit. Her plan was to take it in easy stages, perhaps jumping on and off trains for the bits she didn't fancy cycling, but it came to nothing beyond planting a seed in my mind as to what the journey would be like. Having completed my Tour of the County Towns of England in 2016, a total of 2042 miles in 30 days, I was looking for a new challenge for 2017 and my mind flicked back to Kate's idea so I sat down with the aid of my trusty computer cycle planning program, Ride with GPS, to plot a possible route from Etanaloge to Home Farm.

When most people think of Italy it is the hotspots of Rome, Naples and Florence that spring to mind but I soon realised that a cycle trip through those cities would involve a huge amount of climbing even before I arrived at the main barrier, the Alps, and was probably beyond my capability in the month I had set aside for the task. My previous challenges have all taken place in May and June, but Matteo's birth meant that I had to delay my journey until September/October which meant that the days would be shorter but would still allow me a good 9 hours of cycling in daylight, if necessary.



I decided to aim to cover about 70 miles a day, which at my average speed, I should be able to achieve in about 6 hours cycling plus stops for food and rest at sea level to the Po valley and thence across northern Italy to the Grand St Bernard pass over the Alps, down to Geneva and diagonally across the middle of France to Ouistreham and the ferry to Portsmouth and Home Farm.

The next step was to ensure that I had somewhere to stay each night and Booking.com provided me with all the necessary tools for the job. One of the great advantages to the traveller of using Booking.com is that accommodation can be changed up to the last minute, so booking far in advance does not commit you to a particular route, but, at least, I had a good idea of the places that I would stay. I tried to keep to a budget of 50 euros per day for B&B and, in the final reckoning, just about managed it. Considering that for five of those days the cost was for two people I exceeded expectations. It is interesting that, in general, the further north I travelled the cost increased, with few hotels in Switzerland and France including breakfast in their prices. At the other end of the scale a working man's hotel in which I stayed in Apulia gave me a three course dinner, including a pint of beer and a carafe of wine, a comfortable bed, and breakfast (admittedly not huge) for 45 euros.

With 10 days to go before the start I decided that I would abandon the idea of going around the "toe" and, instead, go over it, across the hills of central Calabria, shortening the journey but increasing the climbing. So, on 20th September I set out from Etnalodge on a bright but breezy day with the temperature in the high twenties. The first stage of the trip was to lose the 1550 feet from Etnalodge to the sea at Giardini Naxos so was an opportunity to get used to the extra weight that I was carrying in two panniers and a handlebar bag. (I decided that taking the baby along was probably a step too far). I managed to get lost almost immediately but I had left myself plenty of time to catch the ferry from Messina to Villa San Giovanni on the mainland and duly arrived at the bustling port at about 1 o'clock for the 1.30 ferry. There were squalls out in the straits of Messina but we avoided getting wet.



Once in Calabria I had to cycle along the coast for about 12 miles before what appeared, in the planning, to be a stiff climb back up to 1650 feet above sea level. In the event the climb was sharp but not as steep as I had feared and produced some good views of Sicily through the piles of plastic rubbish that litters the roadsides of southern Italy, and I arrived at my night stop at about 4pm.

The following morning I had to lose all the height that I had gained in dropping down to the port of Gioia Tauro, which has a reputation of being the main entry port to Europe of most of the illegal drugs that are imported by the 'Ndrangheta', the Calabrian equivalent of the Sicilian Mafia before making my way by delightful byways across a central plain, heavily cultivated with citrus groves and avocado orchards before climbing up to 2400 feet through the beautiful hills of central Calabria. From then on it was mostly downhill to the sea at Soverato Marina where I was to spend the night. However at Chiaravalle Centrale disaster struck. I had foolishly pushed my mobile phone, which also acts as one of my two means of navigation and my camera, into the map case on top of my handlebar bag and, at some point, it had fallen out on the ground. I had travelled at least 7 miles before I realised that I was not receiving the spoken cues that I should have been hearing, so retraced my steps as best I could. I was unable to find the phone and, as time was pressing, I thought it best to carry on to Soverato, report the loss to the Carabinieri and buy a replacement phone and Italian sim card to last the remainder of the journey. The hotel receptionist was very helpful to me and I was fortunate to find an English speaking policeman to explain the situation. Suffice it to say that the report was made the following morning and I carried on with my new phone. Sadly all the photographs I had taken that day, amongst the most spectacular of the trip, were lost with the phone.

To be continued...

Dear Villagers,

The Benefice gave Peter Hallet a great send off at his last Joint Service in Henstridge Church, which was very well attended. Peter Clark played the organ, Liz Holbrook organised the choir and the three churches combined to lay on a buffet lunch afterwards in the church. – a sad but happy occasion. Horsington and Templecombe churches gave Peter and Bridget a farewell party nine days earlier in our own church, which was much enjoyed by all who attended from both parishes. We wish them both a very happy retirement.

Now that we are in an interregnum for at least seven months (minimum!), we will be having retired vicars to take services. We are very lucky to have Revd. Ian Coomber living in Templecombe to guide us through. He will be taking some of the services, with help from Canon Brian McConnell, a former canon of Carlisle Cathedral, Revd. Frank Wright who had a parish in Chichester, Revd. Diane Barrett, a non-stipendiary minister from Bolton, Revd. Nigel Beardsley, a chaplain at Yeovilton and Sue Kellagher, a lay-reader from Castle Cary.

Christmas is a time of giving and the Church is holding a coffee morning in the Half Moon at 10.30am 5th December in aid of *Crisis at Christmas*. We also have a Carol Service on Christmas Eve at 6pm, followed by mince pies and mulled wine, and we hope to see a good number at both events. God Bless.

All good wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

Rosemarie Wigley (Churchwarden)

THE BOOK FAIR AT HORSINGTON SCHOOL

In recent years, Horsington School has hosted a Book Fair on Parents' evening.

Two years ago, the school decided to seek a new supplier of books with emphasis on quality of reading. They opted for The Roving Bookshop, an independent childrens' bookshop which offered a huge and carefully selected choice of books with attractive illustrations and good quality paper.

After its strong success last year, The Roving Bookshop was back in November filling the school hall with a fantastic selection of books for every age group. Parents and children crammed the hall at the end of the school day to look at the books, with parents guided by their children who had a preview with their teacher on the day. With so much excitement and anticipation in choosing books they couldn't wait to read and despite coming close to Christmas, it was extraordinary to see that most families were buying books for themselves and not as presents.

Thank you to all parents and carers for supporting their children's reading at home and at school.

DECEMBER

St John the Baptist, Horsington

| | | |
|----------|---------|-----------------------------------|
| 3rd Dec | 9.15am | Holy Communion with Sunday School |
| | 11.00am | Baptism |
| 10th Dec | 11.00am | Morning Prayer |
| 17th Dec | 9.15am | Holy Communion |
| 24th Dec | 6.00pm | Candlelit Carol Service |
| 25th Dec | 9.15am | Holy Communion |

St Nicholas, Henstridge

| | | | | |
|----------|---------|------------------------------|---------|-------------------|
| 3rd Dec | 11.00am | Morning Worship | 6.30pm | Evensong |
| 10th Dec | 9.30am | Holy Communion | 4.00pm | Messy Christingle |
| 17th Dec | 11.00am | Holy Communion | 6.30pm | Carol Service |
| 24th Dec | 4.00pm | Crib Service | 11.30pm | Holy Communion |
| 25th Dec | 9.30am | Holy Communion | | |
| 31st Dec | 10.30am | United Service at Horsington | | |

St Mary The Virgin, Templecombe

| | | |
|----------|---------|------------------------------|
| 3rd Dec | 11.00am | Morning Praise |
| 10th Dec | 5.00pm | Christingle Service |
| 17th Dec | 6.30pm | Carol Service |
| 24th Dec | 9.30am | Holy Communion |
| 25th Dec | 11.00am | Holy Communion |
| 31st Dec | 10.30am | United Service at Horsington |

JANUARY

St John the Baptist, Horsington

| | | |
|----------|---------|-----------------------------------|
| 7th Jan | 9.15am | Holy Communion with Sunday School |
| 14th Jan | 11.00am | Morning Prayer |
| 21st Jan | 9.15am | Holy Communion |
| 28th Jan | 8.30am | Holy Communion |

St Nicholas, Henstridge

| | | | | |
|----------|---------|-----------------|--------|----------|
| 7th Jan | 11.00am | Morning Worship | 6.30pm | Evensong |
| 14th Jan | 9.30am | Holy Communion | | |
| 21st Jan | 11.00am | Morning Prayer | 6.30pm | Evensong |
| 28th Jan | 11.00am | Holy Communion | | |

St Mary The Virgin, Templecombe

| | | |
|----------|---------|----------------|
| 7th Jan | 11.00am | Morning Praise |
| 14th Jan | 9.30pm | Holy Communion |
| 21st Jan | 11.00am | Holy Communion |
| 28th Jan | 9.30am | Holy Communion |

PETER and BRIDGET HALLET

by John Vallins

Peter, our recently retired rector, had dreamed, as a schoolboy in London, of becoming an aeronautical engineer, but he was not good at exams, and all his teachers except one thought this aspiration wildly unrealistic. Meanwhile, Bridget, the Bristol schoolgirl who was to become Mrs Hallet, felt that she could be of more practical use to her large family (she was one of six children) if she did not take up her place at Grammar School.

Fortunately, Peter was sufficiently encouraged by that one particular teacher who recognised his ability to qualify for entry to the grammar school sixth form in Sussex (the family now lived in Hove) and to start A level studies in Maths, Physics and Mechanical Drawing. In those days, he felt that science was the way to the truth and incompatible with religious faith. He was (in his own terms) a militant atheist, and delighted in challenging the beliefs of a group of Christian fellow pupils. Nevertheless, as something of a loner, he signed on for a Christian camping expedition. The trouble was that it required possession of a bible, so he had to buy one and found in it a booklet of notes, which had a profound effect on him. He began to see the Christian faith anew and the idea of resurrection as one that a scientist might reasonably entertain.

Meanwhile, Bridget had, after school, been active in the Baptist Church, and in Bristol Youth theatre and had begun to work in data processing, acquiring skills that have more recently benefited elderly parishioners like me who have found themselves unable to fathom their Ipad's unaided. And Peter had qualified for a sandwich course combining apprenticeship in Bristol with academic study leading to a degree course. He too had acquired computing skills from which we parishioners have subsequently benefited.

Peter and Bridget met at the Bristol church of St Phillip and St James and they were married while he was still an apprentice. When a lay worker at the church first put the idea of ordination into Peter's head, he was startled ('What, Me?'), but the idea took root, and he successfully got over the necessary hurdles to qualify for theological training and enrolled at Oakhill theological college in London, already a married man and a father.

He was ordained in Sheffield Cathedral in 1976, and became curate in the Yorkshire parish of Brinsworth and Catcliffe, where his ministry was mainly amongst miners and steelworkers. A plan for the family to emigrate to Canada fell through, and for a time he was an unemployed priest working in Argos to pay the bills (and so something of a curiosity to his mainly female fellow employees). But the bishop of Sheffield offered the post of Priest in Charge of St James, Doncaster. The context was the miners' strike and job losses at steelworks and on the railways. So this was a community afflicted by much unemployment and hardship. And Peter's sympathetic ministry amongst his hard-pressed parishioners revived the church's life, and won him appointment as vicar.

The family, by this time including four children with Yorkshire accents, came back to the South West when Peter was made rector of Henstridge and Charlton Horethorne with Stowell in 1986.

The parishes of this corner of the Diocese of Bath and Wells have undergone several reorganisations in recent years, and it was in 2006 that Peter assumed responsibility for the parishes of Abbas and Templecombe with Horsington, becoming in 2007 rector of the new, combined benefice of Abbas and Templecombe, Henstridge and Horsington. So then the community of the Villager's readership got to know the Hallets.

Bridget's phenomenal creativity and dynamism had long been evident to the people of Henstridge through the 'Jostles', involving so many people, young and old, and from every walk of life, in music, dance, drama and sheer fun, as well as in the stage performances like 'A bit of a do' which she created and in which she starred, as also in the inventive 'Messy Church', and in her pervasive humanity, warmth and friendship.

And I am one of the many who have been repeatedly touched and encouraged by the humility and humanity of Peter's thoughtful examination of Bible readings in his carefully researched sermons, as by his generously inclusive approach to all. He shares his theological ponderings on equal terms, as it were, with us, the lay congregation, and always (as in his funeral addresses, which keep alive the Christian hope), tends to see a positive way through the dismal and frightening aspects of contemporary life. I shall not easily forget the way he has tellingly ended sermons with the words of the 15th century visionary, Julian of Norwich: They might be Peter's motto: 'All shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of thing shall be well'.



Peter Hallet



Bridget Hallet, Rosemarie Wigley
and Anne Jones



Half Moon Inn Music Night, Horsington at 8.30pm on Wednesday 6th December & 3rd January

Please come and join us, play and sing whilst enjoying a beer. Free, apart from drinks.

Further details from **Anna** on **370749**

THE WHITE HORSE in **South Cheriton** is a family friendly pub serving excellent meals using locally sourced ingredients where possible and complemented by good wines.

Come and also enjoy our fine range of ales and beers.

info@whitehorsecheriton.co.uk 01963 370394



Moviola—Milborne Port

Saturday 9th December - Doors Open 7.00pm, film starts 7.30pm

Film: **The Audience**

Tickets: £5.00 in advance—£5.50 at door

Exclusively available from Wayne the Butcher, High Street, Milborne Port
For more information phone Martin Lancaster on 01963 251858

WINCANTON MUSEUM AND HISTORY SOCIETY

Friday January 26th @ 7.30pm at the Wincanton Memorial Hall

Talk on: **Rural Poverty** by **Chris Forester**

The cost is £2 for members and £5 for non-members.

wincantonmuseum.org.uk

Crossword Answers

Across. 1. Present day. 8. Approve. 9. Opera. 10. Even. 11. Cloister. 13. Pest. 14. Ermie. 16. Surprise. 17. Stun. 20. Olive. 21. Alarmed. 22. Antithesis.

Down. 1. Peace. 2. Express train. 3. Eros. 4. Treble. 5. Atomiser. 6. Testing times. 7. Barrie. 12. Fourteen. 13. Pistol. 15. Askari. 18. Nodes. 19. Bath.

Blackmore Vale and Yeovil National Trust Association

The Trinity Entertainers

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Festive refreshments will be served at the end of the afternoon. There will also be a raffle.

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**A Talk by Shaun McCormack:
The Queen's Bodyguard of the Yeomen of the Guard**

Shaun will entertain us with a descriptive talk on how he became a Yeoman, what is entailed and how the Queen's Bodyguard came into existence.

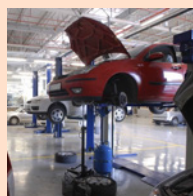
**A Grand Seasonal Christmas Charity Concert
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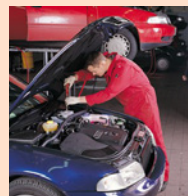
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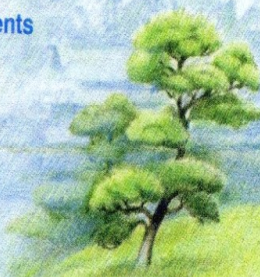
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(all phone numbers start 01963 unless otherwise stated)

| NAME | CONTACT | TEL NO |
|---|--|---------------|
| Bellringing | Anna Piechna | 370749 |
| Buses (local) | | 0871 2002233 |
| Citizens Advice Bureau, Wincanton | | 0344 88 9623 |
| CAT Bus Ring and Ride Service | | 33864 |
| Doctors Surgeries | Milborne Port (inc Templecombe) | 250334 |
| | Wincanton Health Centre | 435700 |
| French/Italian Conversation | Jeanne Mortarotti | 202265 |
| Horsington Church School | Head/Secretary | 370358 |
| Governors | Vicky Franklin | 370699 |
| PTFA | Lucy Mackay | 824866 |
| Ladies' Lunch Group | Rosemarie Wigley | 371478 |
| | Susan Maltin | 371400 |
| Mobile Library | | 0845 345 9177 |
| MP | David Warburton | 020 7219 5225 |
| Parish Council | | |
| Chair | Jackie Pyne | 370713 |
| Clerk | David Chapman | 370527 |
| | www.horsingtonpc@gmail.com | |
| St John's Church | | |
| Wardens | Anne Jones & | 370626 |
| | Rosemarie Wigley | 371478 |
| Sunday School | Deirdre Loftus | 370091 |
| Scouts | Geoff Crabb | 370623 |
| Social Services | | 0845 345 9133 |
| South Somerset District Council | | 01935 462462 |
| U3A | Jean Lindley | 251256 |
| Village Emergency Telephone System (VETS) | | 602500 |
| Wincanton Town Council | | 31693 |
| W.I. | Jackie Pyne | 370713 |
| Village Hall | www.horsingtonvillagehall.co.uk | |
| Chair | John Macdonald | 370444 |
| Bookings | Emilie Gordon | 371396 |
| Art | Gill Elston & | 370236 |
| | Alison Clements | 370866 |
| Badminton | Frank Beach | 370767 |
| Dance | Louise Holliday | 362689 |
| Football | Keith Norman | 370332 |
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